Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A porphyrin compound containing a biotinyl group represented by Formula (I):

Por-A-Bi

wherein:

Por represents a porphyrin residue forming a metal complex selected from a group consisting of heme a, heme b, heme c, variant heme c, heme d, heme d1, siroheme, and heme o;

Bi represents a biotinyl group or a biotinyl group substituted with halogen, nitro, cyano or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

A is ~~selected from a group consisting of~~

~~-NH-NH-,~~

- NH- NH- CO- $(CH_2)_n$- NH-,

~~-NH-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_n$-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_n$-NH-,~~

~~-NH-$(CH_2)_n$-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_n$-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_n$-CO-NH-NH-,~~

~~-NH-$(CH_2)_n$-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~-NH$(CH_2)_n$-CO-NH-$(CH_2)_n$-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~in the above formulae, each~~ wherein n ~~independently~~ represents 1-10.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Previously Presented)   The compound according to claim 1, wherein the Por is a heme b residue.

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Previously Presented)   The compound according to claim 1, wherein the Bi is a biotinyl group.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Previously Presented)   The compound of claim 1, wherein the A is - NH-NH- CO- $(CH_2)_5$- NH-.

8.   (Original) A method for preparing the porphyrin compound containing a biotinyl group according to claim 1, comprising reacting a porphyrin optionally forming a metal complex with a compound containing a terminally aminated biotinyl group in the presence of a coupling agent.

9. - 10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Original)   A hemoprotein labeling compound that is the compound according to claim 1.

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Currently Amended)   A diagnostic agent for hemoprotein-associated diseases, the diagnostic agent comprising a porphyrin compound containing a biotinyl group represented by Formula (I):

Por-A-Bi

wherein:

Por represents a porphyrin residue forming a metal complex selected from a group consisting of heme a, heme b, heme c, variant heme c, heme d, heme d1, siroheme, and heme o;

Bi represents a biotinyl group or a biotinyl group substituted with halogen, nitro, cyano or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

A is ~~selected from a group consisting of~~

-3-

~~-NH-NH-,~~

- NH- NH- CO- $(CH_2)_n$- NH-,

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-,~~

~~-NH-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~-NH(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~in the above formulae, each~~ wherein n ~~independently~~ represents 1-10.

14.   (Currently Amended)   A therapeutic drug for photodynamic therapy, the diagnostic agent comprising a porphyrin compound containing a biotinyl group represented by Formula (I):

Por-A-Bi

wherein:

Por represents a porphyrin residue forming a metal complex selected from a group consisting of ~~uroporphyrin-I, uroporphyrin-II, coproporphyrin-III, protoporphyrin-IX, and hematoporphyrin-IX~~ heme a, heme b, heme c, heme d, heme d1, siroheme, and heme;

Bi represents a biotinyl group or a biotinyl group substituted with halogen, nitro, cyano or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

A is ~~selected from a group consisting of~~

~~-NH-NH-,~~

- NH- NH- CO- $(CH_2)_n$- NH-,

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-NH-,~~

~~-NH-NH-CO-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-,~~

~~-NH-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~-NH(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-(CH_2)_n-CO-NH-NH-, and~~

~~in the above formulae, each~~ wherein n ~~independently~~ represents 1-10.

15.   (New)   The diagnostic agent of claim 13, wherein the A is -NH-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_5$-NH-.

16.   (New)   The therapeutic drug of claim 14, wherein the A is -NH-NH-CO-$(CH_2)_5$-NH-.